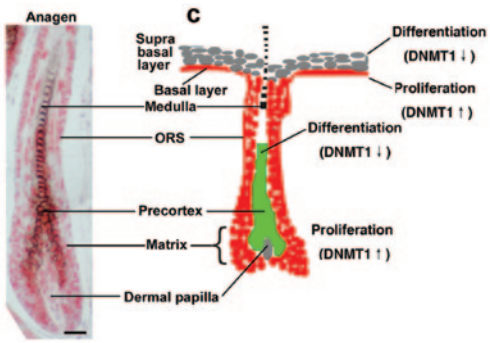
Drink It Up

Although increased UV exposure, light skin color, red hair, tendency to sunburn, and light eye color have been established as risk factors for nonmelanoma skin cancer, the risk imparted by modifiable lifestyle factors has not been confirmed. Jensen and colleagues assessed data from 54,766 Danish men and women from the large prospective Diet, Cancer, and Health cohort study to address the association between alcohol intake and risks for basal cell carcinoma (BCC) and squamous cell carcinoma (SCC). After adjustment for UV susceptibility–related factors, the analysis revealed an increased risk of BCC with current wine and spirit use and a nonmonotonic association between BCC risk and beer intake, but no association was found between total alcohol intake and SCC. ***See page 2718***

In Every Bite

Sand fly salivary components as well as parasitic vectors are deposited with each fly bite. Previous reports demonstrated that immunization with *LJM11* DNA, which encodes a single sand fly salivary protein, protected against needle challenge with *Leishmania major* plus the sand fly saliva. Gomes and colleagues found that adjuvantless immunization of mice with recombinant LJM11 induced long-lasting, ulcer-free immunity against *L. major* challenge. This protection from cutaneous leishmaniasis was cell-mediated and dependent on $CD4^+$ T cells. Importantly, this antisaliva immunity led to the development of *Leishmania*-specific immunity in the absence of open ulcers. ***See page 2735***

Epigenetic Hair Loss



DNA methylation functions in stem cell self-renewal and differentiation in the skin. In mice with loss of DNA methyltransferase 1 (DNMT1) in the keratin 14–expressing epidermis, Li and colleagues demonstrated uneven epidermal thickness, patchy differentiation marker expression, shorter and thinner hair fibers, prolonged telogen in hair follicles of older mice, decreased proliferation in anagen hair matrix, and increased apoptosis in anagen hair follicles. Overall, decreasing stem cell activation during aging results in progressive alopecia, suggesting that DNMT1 is critical for the maintenance of stem cell homeostasis during development and regeneration. ***See page 2681***

An Array of Differences

Discoid lupus erythematosus (DLE) is associated with milder systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) disease activity. Chong and colleagues employed autoantigen arrays in a pilot study and demonstrated distinctive IgG and IgM autoantibody patterns that may be useful for distinguishing DLE and SLE subsets. The differentially expressed autoantibodies mainly targeted nuclear antigens, and immunoassays corroborated these results. Interestingly, $DLE–SLE^+$ patients exhibited lower levels of these nuclear protein–targeted autoantibodies but had higher IgG:IgM ratios, in agreement with a possible nonpathogenic role for specific IgM antibodies and milder clinical disease in DLE patients. ***See page 2770***

Wound-Repair Clues

Insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF-1) affects wound repair, and, despite evidence of cross-talk between IGF-1 receptor (IGF-1R) and estrogen receptors (ERs) in other systems, corresponding links during wound repair remain unconfirmed. Emmerson and colleagues demonstrated that IGF-1 promotes wound healing in hormonally deprived mice via such cross-talk in the skin. The reepithelialization effects of IGF-1 are mediated through IGF-1R, whereas the anti-inflammatory effects are mediated through ERs. These results suggest that IGF-1 may compensate for decreased estrogen in wound repair, and they provide support for hormone therapy for chronic wound treatment in aging, postmenopausal women. ***See page 2838***

Journal of Investigative Dermatology (2012) **132**, 2673. doi:10.1038/jid.2012.413